

**Electric Utilities Task Group
Friday, December 16, 2011
Town Hall, Old Town Road
10:30 a.m.**

Present: Barbara MacMullan, Bill Penn, Everett Shorey. Also present were Cliff McGinnes, representing the Block Island Power Company, Dan West, representing BI Times, Bryan Wilson, Liaison for Deepwater, Elliot Taubman, Councilor Peter Baute, Town Manager Nancy Dodge. Bonny Ryan was present to take the minutes.
Not Present: Mike Ballard

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

1. Public Input – Elliot Taubman mentioned that there will be a May 18th seminar about energy sponsored by the Law Foundation.

2. Approve minutes of October 21, and Nov. 15, 2011

A motion was made by Barbara MacMullan and seconded by Bill Penn to accept the minutes of October 21, 2011 and Nov. 15, 2011 as written.

Ayes 3 (MacMullan, Penn, Shorey) Nays 0 Absent 1(Ballard)

3. Discussion of Energy Forum

Barbara MacMullan and Everett Shorey will work on an introductory document to the forum findings and when it is acceptable it will go on the Town website.

A motion was made by Everett Shorey and seconded by Bill Penn to adopt the recommendations from the forum when an acceptable front piece has been developed.

Ayes 3 (MacMullan, Penn, Shorey) Nays 0 Absent 1(Ballard)

4. Distribution Upgrade

Cliff McGinnes presented the Task force with the attached figures for the High Energy Cost grant. He had a wish list which included:

- One item rate case
- Reduction in data requests
- PUC approval
- Financing of the project
- Smart Meters
- Update of distribution upgrade amounts

The Town's energy expert, Richard LaCapra, will look at everything from Mr. McGinnes. After discussion about costs the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Barbara MacMullan and seconded by Bill Penn to recommend that the Town Council work collaboratively with the EUTG, Block Island Power Company and Richard LaCapra to analyze and prepare a rate request for distribution upgrades to the P.U. C.

Ayes 3 (MacMullan, Shorey, Penn) Nays 0 Absent 1(Ballard)

There was a discussion about having forums for island groups (i.e. Fire Dept., Teachers, etc.)

5. Deepwater Update

Bryan Wilson reported that the Zephyr units were upgraded and returned to BI. The Avian Studies unit will be removed in January. The Cable route surveys were discussed. Mr. Wilson reported that the applications packages for the substation went to Zoning and Planning Boards. He showed maps and plans to the Task Group.

6. Update on Pace Federal Legislation

There was a discussion on Property Assessed Clean Energy financing and how there is legislation pending that would make this viable.

A motion was made by Bill Penn and seconded by Everett Shorey to recommend that the Town Council pursue Property Assessed Clean Energy Financing establishing state enabled legislation to create PACE districts.

Ayes 3 (MacMullan, Shorey, Penn) Nays 0 Absent 1(Ballard)

7. Set Meeting Schedule for 2012

The following schedule was approved:

Meetings to be held on the 3rd Friday of the month at 10:30 (Subject to boat schedule)

Jan. 20	July 20
Feb. 17	August 17
March 16	Sept. 21
April 20	Oct. 19
May 18	Nov. 16
June 15	Dec. 21

Meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. in a motion by Everett Shorey, seconded by Barbara MacMullan and voted unanimously.

Approved:

Bonny Ryan